

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 4-7, 9-18 and 20-22 are pending in this application. Claims 4, 9, 12, 18 and 20 have been amended and claim 19 has been cancelled.

Claims 18-22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112 as allegedly being indefinite. In response, Claim 18 has been amended to be similar to former Claim 15 and to include the limitations of canceled Claim 19. In addition, in response to concerns expressed in the Advisory Action dated June 8, 2004, Claim 18 now recites “a circuit operable to output serial information *corresponding to parallel data provided thereto*” (emphasis added), thus clarifying that “serial information” is different from “a serial bitstream.” Specifically, it is clear now that “serial information” is used to describe the function of the element in which is recited, i.e., to output serial information corresponding to parallel data provided thereto, while “a serial bitstream” is a specific serial bitstream that conforms to a defined bit sequence. These claims are now believed to be in condition for allowance. Wherefore reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 4 and 9-14 were objected to as being dependent on a canceled base claim. These claims have been amended to correct the dependency. Wherefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are respectfully requested.

This Preliminary Amendment corrects the antecedent basis error in claim 18 that was pointed out by the examiner in a phone call earlier in the prosecution. Applicant believes Claim 18 is now similar to original Claim 15 that was indicated as allowable by the Examiner.

Finally, Claim 20 has been amended to address the antecedent basis concern raised in the above-mentioned Advisory Action. It is respectfully

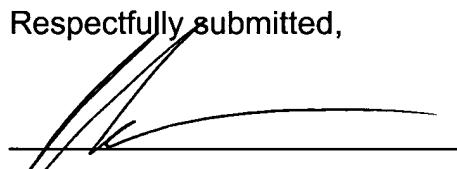
submitted that this concern has now been overcome, and that Claim 20 is therefore allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that the claims recite the patentably distinguishing features of the invention and that, taken together with the above remarks, the present application is now in proper form for allowance. Reconsideration of the application, as amended, and allowance of the claims are requested at an early date.

While it is believed that the instant amendment places the application in condition for allowance, should the Examiner have any further comments or suggestions, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner contact the undersigned in order to expeditiously resolve any outstanding issues.

To the extent necessary, the Applicants petition for an Extension of Time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please charge any fees in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees to the Deposit Account No. 20-0668 of Texas Instruments Incorporated.

Respectfully submitted,



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